

Docket No.: P-01855-US0 (B051)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CENTRAL FAX CENTER

APPLICATION NO.: 09/893,359

ART UNIT: 3626

MAY 22 2006

FILING DATE: June 26, 2001

EXAMINER: Robert W. Morgan

INVENTOR: Steven Becker et al.

TITLE: Method and Apparatus for Facilitating Delivery of Medical Services

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the March 21, 2006 Restriction Requirement, response time being extended to May 22, 2006, applicants elect Invention I, claims 1-26, with traverse.

MPEP 803 I. lists the two criteria for a proper restriction requirement:

- (A) The inventions must be independent or distinct as claimed; and
- (B) There would be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is not required.

Applicants note that the Examiner has classified all inventions in class 705, subclass 2. Applicants submit that because the claims deal with similar subject matter and are classified in the same class and sub-class, there would not be a serious burden on the Examiner if restriction is not required. A restriction would place a burden on the small entity applicant, tripling the filing fees, issue fees, and maintenance fees over the life of the patent.

Applicants therefore traverse the three way restriction and request that the restriction requirement be withdrawn or, at least reduced to a two way requirement.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 5/22/06By: 

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on May 22, 2006.

By: 